Lifting of cereals allocated to Bihar

†3079. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:
SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cereals allocated by the Central Government through Food Corporation of India is not being lifted by the Bihar Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Bihar Government has explained the situation by writing a letter in this regard; and

(d) if so, the situation according to the letter, and whether Government has relaxed certain rules so that the lifting of the cereals could be easy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) to (d) The position of allocation and lifting of foodgrains under TPDS in Bihar during 2008-09 and 2009-10 (upto May, 2009) is as follows :—

(in thousand tons)

Year	Rice			Wheat		
	Allotment	Lifting	%age	Allotment	Lifting	%age
2008-09	1884.518	916.863	48.65	1073.604	612.159	57.02
2009-10 (upto May, 2009)	314.156	148.085	47.14	249.596	80.890	32.41

As can be seen from these details, lifting of allocated foodgrains by State Government of Bihar has been unsatisfactory. In November, 2008, the State Government reported about non-availability of stocks for sometime in some FCI depots. For this necessary corrective steps were taken by FCI.

As per the existing instructions/guidelines, validity period for lifting of foodgrains allocated under TPDS is 50 days for each allocation month separately, starting from the 1st day of the month preceding the allocation month and ending on the 20th day of the allocation month. Extension of validity period upto 15 days can be granted by FCI authorities in cases where full payment for the allocation had been received by FCI by 15th of the allocation month, but full quantities of allocated foodgrains were not available during the validity period in the assigned or alternatively assigned FCI depots/godowns. Beyond 15 days, extension of validity period is considered by the Ministry. Since October, 2008, three requests for extension of validity period of lifting of foodgrains-received from the State Government have been granted.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.